

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.(previously presented) An ink for ink jet recording, comprising a aqueous medium and a phthalocyanine dye dissolved or dispersed in the aqueous medium,

wherein the phthalocyanine dye has an oxidation potential of more positive than 1.0 V and the ink has a conductivity of 0.01 S/m to 10 S/m.

2.(original) The ink for ink jet recording according to Claim 1, which has a viscosity of 1 to 20 mPa·sec at 25°C.

3.(previously presented) The ink for ink jet recording according to Claim 1, which has a static surface tension of 25 to 50 mN/m at 25°C.

4.(previously presented) The ink for ink jet recording according to Claim 2, wherein a viscosity of the ink has a viscosity ratio of not greater than 250% from at 25°C to at 10°C, and a static surface tension has a static surface tension ratio of not greater than 130% from at 25°C to at 10°C.

5.(previously presented) The ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1, which has a pH value of 4 to 12 at 25°C.

6.(currently amended) The ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1,
which has a dye remaining ratio of not smaller than 60% after 24 hours of storage in an atmosphere of 5 ppm ozone in a monochromatic area that is obtained by printing with a monochromatic ink in such a manner a cyan reflection density through a status A ~~filter~~filter is from 0.9 to 1.1.

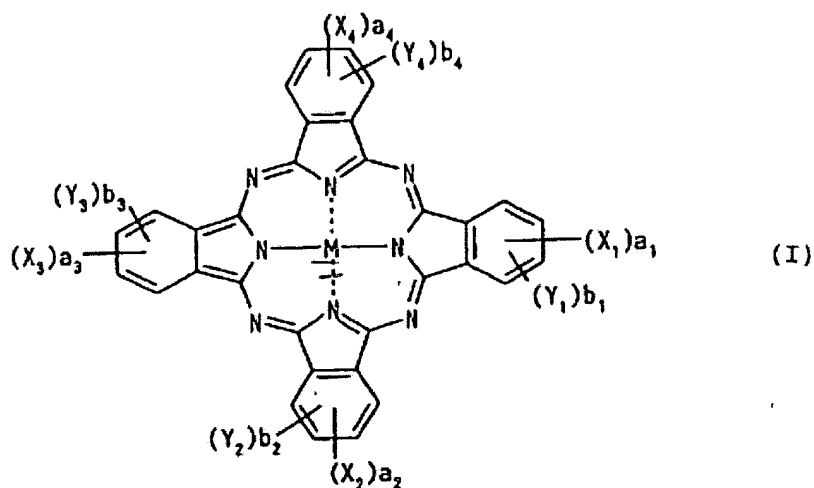
7.(currently amended) The ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1,
wherein the ink has Cu ions that are eluted with water in an amount of not greater than 20% of a total amount of the dye after ~~an ozone fading under the conditions defined in claim 6~~24 hours of storage in an atmosphere of 5 ppm ozone in a monochromatic area that is obtained by printing with a monochromatic ink in such a manner a cyan reflection density through a status A filter is from 0.9 to 1.1.

8.(previously presented) The ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1,
wherein the phthalocyanine dye is a water-soluble dye having an electron-withdrawing group at β -position of a benzene ring in the phthalocyanine.

9.(previously presented) The ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1,

wherein the phthalocyanine dye is a water-soluble dye that is produced by a process which doesn't pass through a sulfonation of an unsubstituted phthalocyanine.

10.(previously presented) The ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1,
wherein the phthalocyanine dye is represented by the following formula (I):



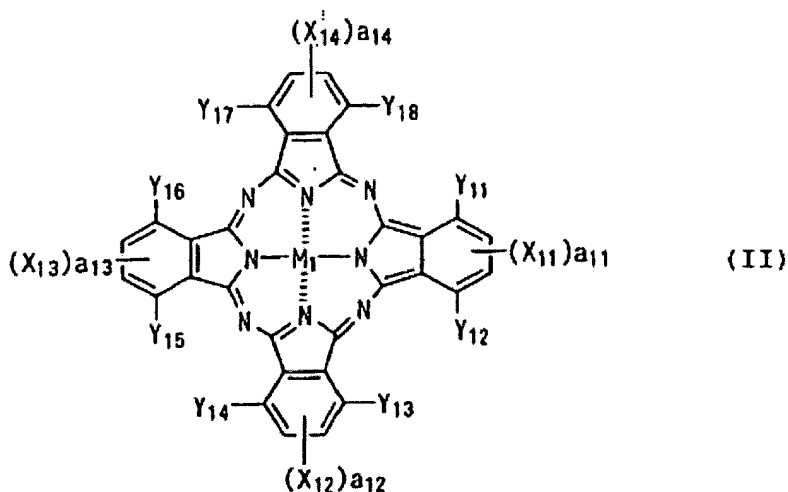
wherein X_1 , X_2 , X_3 and X_4 each independently represent $-\text{SO}-\text{Z}$, $-\text{SO}_2-\text{Z}$, $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}_1\text{R}_2$, sulfo group, $-\text{CONR}_1\text{R}_2$ or $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}_1$; Z represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl group, substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl group, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl group, substituted or unsubstituted aryl group or substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group; R_1 and R_2 each independently represent a hydrogen atom, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group, substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl group, substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl group, substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl group, substituted or unsubstituted aryl group or substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group; and when there are a plurality of Z 's, they may be the same or different;

Y_1, Y_2, Y_3 and Y_4 each independently represent a monovalent substituent; and when there are a plurality of any of X_1 to X_4 and Y_1 to Y_4 , they may be the same or different;

a_1 to a_4 and b_1 to b_4 represent the number of substituents X_1 to X_4 and Y_1 to Y_4 , respectively; a_1 to a_4 each independently represent an integer of from 0 to 4 and are not 0 at the same time; and b_1 to b_4 each independently represent an integer of 0 to 4; and

M represents a hydrogen atom, metal atom or oxide, hydroxide or halide thereof.

11.(currently amended) The ink for ink jet recording according to Claim 10, wherein the dye represented by the formula (I) is a dye represented by the following formula (II):



wherein X_{11} to X_{14} ; and M have the same meaning as X_1 to X_4 and M in formula (I), respectively; Y_{11} to Y_{18} and M each have the same meaning as those in the formula (I) each independently represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a cyano group, an alkoxy group, an amide group, a ureido group, a sulfonamide group, a

carbamoyl group, a sulfamoyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, a carboxyl group or a sulfo group; when there are a plurality of X_{11} to X_{14} , they may be the same or different; and a_{11} to a_{14} represent the number of substituents X_{11} to X_{14} , respectively, and each independently represents an integer of 1 or 2.

12.(previously presented) A method for ink jet recording, comprising using the ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1.

13.(previously presented) A method for recording an image on an image-receiving material, comprising ejecting an ink droplet onto the image-receiving material including an image-receiving layer containing an inorganic white particulate pigment on a support according to a record signal,

wherein the ink droplet comprises the ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1.

14.(previously presented) A method for producing the ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1, which comprises at least applying an ultrasonic vibration.

15.(previously presented) A method for producing the ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1,

wherein the ink for ink jet recording prepared is filtered through a filter having pores of an effective diameter of not greater than 1 μm and defoamed before use.

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/502,393

16. (new) The ink for ink jet recording according to claim 1, wherein the ink contains the phthalocyanine dye in an amount of 0.2 to 20% by weight.

17. (new) The ink for ink jet recording according to claim 11, wherein at least one of X_{11} to X_{14} represents $-\text{SO}_2\text{-Z}$ or $-\text{SO}_2\text{NR}_1\text{R}_2$.

18. (new) The ink for ink jet recording according to claim 11, wherein Y_{11} to Y_{18} each represents a hydrogen atom.